

Message Text

SECRET

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53

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:D. MACK

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 296075 TOSEC 240272

EXDIS FOR FUNSETH

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BEIRUT CAIRO DAMASCUS
JIDDA TEL AVIV MANAMA DHAHRAN FROM AMMAN DTD 16 DEC 1975

QTE S E C R E T AMMAN 9688

EXDIS

DAMASCUS FOR ATHERTON FROM CHARGE

MANAMA AND DHAHRAN FOR AMBASSADOR PICKERING

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (ATHERTON, ALFRED L.)

SUBJECT: ATHERTON/GODLEY MEETING

REF: LONDON 19276

1. DURING MEETING WITH KING HUSSEIN ON DEC 16
I INFORMED KING OF ATHERTON-GODLEY MEETING IN
AMMAN ON DEC 18 AND THANKED KING FOR GOJ'S
COOPERATION IN THAT MATTER.

2. KING SAID HE WAS GLAD TO HELP OUT AND CONTINUED
HE HOPED POSSIBLY TO SEE AMBASSADOR GODLEY DURING
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HIS VISIT HERE. HE HOWEVER TOOK INITIATIVE TO STATE

THAT HE HOPED THERE "WOULD NOT BE TOO MUCH PUBLICITY"
CONCERNING THE ATHERTON-GODLEY MEETING (SAME POINT
EARLIER MADE BY PRIME MINISTER RIFAI). I SAID PER
PARA 2 REFTEL THAT USG WOULD NOT BE ISSUING ANY ANNOUNCEMENT
ON GODLEY TRIP OR HIGHLIGHTING IT, SINCE I HAD
INFORMED USG OF PM'S DESIRE THAT PUBLICITY BE HELD
DOWN.

3. COMMENT: SINCE BOTH KING HUSSEIN AND PM RIFAI
HAVE BOTH NOW REQUESTED WE KEEP PUBLICITY LOW ON
ATHERTON-GODLEY MEETING, I HOPE WE CAN ADHERE TO
THEIR CONDITIONS. BELIEVE IT PARTICULARLY
IMPORTANT THAT WE ISSUE NO STATEMENT AND ALSO THAT
WE TAKE CARE NOT TO ALLOW WORD TO LEAK OUT ABOUT
MEETING BEFORE IT OCCURS. WE AND JORDANIANS ARE
TREATING VISIT AS HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL AND GOJ ASSURES
ME JORDANIAN PRESS WILL NOT RPT NOT REPORT IT
EVEN IF THEY GET WIND OF GODLEY PRESENCE HERE.

4. ACCORDINGLY, REQUEST ADDRESSEES CONTINUE TO TREAT
MEETING AS CONFIDENTIAL/EXDIS.

5. DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS USDEL SECRETARY.
SUDDARTH
UNQTE INGERSOLL

SECRET

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